



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Davilyn Brackin
Public Affairs Specialist

(409) 839-2538

TYLER FELON SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON THROUGH PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

(Tyler, TX) A 43-year-old Tyler man has been sentenced to 46 months in federal prison for being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm. **DEXTER ALAN CRAVENS** was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Michael H. Schneider.

According to evidence presented in court, on October 11, 2004 Tyler police responded to a report of gunfire at Cravens' residence. When they arrived at the scene, they found a gunshot victim unconscious in the front yard. The victim was transported to a local hospital where he later died from his injuries. An investigation revealed that Cravens and the shooting victim had exchanged gunfire inside Cravens' residence earlier that evening. It was determined that Cravens acted in self-defense and he was not prosecuted for the shooting. However, Cravens has two prior felony convictions for Possession of a Controlled Substance and Burglary of a Habitation in Smith County.

Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) is a comprehensive, strategic approach to gun law enforcement that targets gun crime and violent offenders in an effort to make our communities safer. Over the past four years, law enforcement across America increased federal gun crime

prosecutions by 76%. Here in the

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Eastern District of Texas, gun crime prosecutions are up an impressive 93%.

This case was investigated by the Tyler Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jim Noble.

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